Psychiatry: Core EPA #10

Managing substance use disorders for patients with concurrent psychiatric disorders

Key Features:

- The focus of this EPA is the assessment and management of patients with substance use disorders and concurrent psychiatric disorders.
- This EPA includes gathering a patient history, including substance use patterns, other mental health disorders, and social factors and using screening tools to assess the severity and impact of addiction. It also includes requesting appropriate laboratory investigations (e.g., urine drug screen, liver enzymes, hepatitis, sexually transmitted infections) and inquiring about physical manifestations of substance use disorders (e.g., skin infections, history of pancreatitis, endocarditis, etc.).
- Substances may include alcohol, opioids, sedative hypnotics, cannabis, stimulants, tobacco, hallucinogens, inhalants and others.
- It includes developing management and follow-up plans for ongoing monitoring and support.
- This EPA also includes recognizing legal and ethical considerations, and relevant available community resources.
- It is recommended that EPA observations should be planned collaboratively before or at the time of the activity.

Assessment Plan:

Direct and/or indirect observation by psychiatrist, TTP psychiatry resident or psychiatry subspecialty resident

Use form 1. Form collects information on:

- Substance use disorder: alcohol; opioid; sedative hypnotics; cannabis; other
- Therapy: motivational interview; other
- Medication: naltrexone; suboxone; acamprosate; methadone; other
- Concurrent psychiatric disorder: no; yes

Collect 2 observations of achievement

- At least 2 substance use disorders with concurrent psychiatric disorders

CanMEDS Milestones:

1. **ME 1.3 Apply knowledge of the clinical and biomedical sciences relevant to substance use and substance use disorders**
2. **ME 1.4 Perform a clinical assessment that addresses all relevant issues**
3. **ME 2.2 Assess the patient's need and readiness for substance abuse treatment**

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4 **COM 1.6 Integrate their beliefs, concerns, expectations and experiences relevant to the presenting condition**
5 **S 3.4 Apply an evidence-based approach to clinical management**
6 **ME 2.4 Develop and implement management plans that consider all the patient's health problems and context**
7 **HA 1.2 Work with the patient to promote adherence to treatment and positive coping strategies**
8 **HA 1.2 Work with the patient to prevent further acute conditions and other negative effects of substance abuse**
9 **ME 4.1 Determine the need, timing, and priority of referral to another physician and/or health care professional**
10 **COM 3.1 Share information with the patient about their condition and plans for management clearly and compassionately**
11 **COM 4.3 Use communication skills and strategies to help the patient and family make informed decisions**
12 **HA 1.1 Facilitate access to health services and resources**
13 **COL 1.2 Work effectively with members of the interprofessional team to implement a management plan**
14 **ME 4.1 Coordinate plans for ongoing investigation, treatment, monitoring and/or follow-up**
15 **P 1.1 Exhibit appropriate professional behaviours**

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